



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE  
OF THE COURTS  
455 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, CA  
94102-3688  
Tel 415-865-4200  
TDD 415-865-4272  
Fax 415-865-4205  
[www.courtinfo.ca.gov](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov)

## FACT SHEET

---

March 2009

### Improving Trial Court Facilities: Solano—Renovation to Fairfield Old Solano Courthouse

In October 2008 the Judicial Council adopted an updated Trial Court Capital Outlay Plan and a list of 41 projects to be funded by SB 1407. AOC staff has completed a funding request for 15 projects, 13 of which have initial funding included in the FY 2009-2010 Budget Act. Approval of these projects mark important progress toward implementing needed improvements for courts across California.

A funding request for this project—the Solano—Renovation to Fairfield Old Solano Courthouse—has been prepared for review and approval.

#### Renovation to Fairfield Old Solano Courthouse

A renovation to the historic Old Solano Courthouse in Fairfield is proposed by the AOC with a request for initial funding of \$1.7 million. The 29,900 square foot courthouse was originally built in 1911 and is now vacant. This beautiful building is one of the few standing historic courthouses in the State of California and an outstanding example of Beaux Arts architecture expressed in a symbolic civic building. Renovation of this facility will provide three courtrooms for civil cases. The total estimated project cost for the project is \$26.9 million (escalated to construction mid-point). This project—ranked in the Immediate Need priority group of the Trial Court Capital-Outlay Plan—is one of the highest priority capital outlay projects for the judicial branch.

#### Severe Overcrowding and Reduced Access to Court Services

The Superior Court of California, County of Solano operates out of three facilities, two of which are in downtown Fairfield. The court does not have adequate courtrooms for all of its judicial officers in Fairfield, with only 16 courtrooms serving 19 judicial officers. While plans are underway to renovate the Fairfield Law and Justice Center to accommodate two additional judicial officers, this improvement will

only address part of the need for adequate court space. The renovated Old Solano Courthouse will be used for one AB 159 new judgeship and two new judgeships from the last 50 new judgeships sponsored by the Judicial Council.

**Old Solano Courthouse, Fairfield**



#### Local Government Collaboration on Project

The Solano County Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution December 2008 to transfer title to the Old Solano Courthouse to the AOC at no cost to the state. This economic opportunity will allow a three-courtroom facility to be provided to the residents of Solano County at a reduced cost as compared to new construction.

#### Long-term Funding Needs

The enactment of SB 1407 was the major first step in funding 41 urgently needed courthouse improvement projects across the State of California. The Trial Court Capital-Outlay Plan includes another 112 projects for which funding has not been secured. California judicial branch will continue to explore additional, alternative means to fund the state's sizable need for courthouse infrastructure improvements while it implements the 41 projects to be funded by SB 1407.

#### More Information

For further information, please email the AOC-Office of Court Construction and Management at [OCCM@jud.ca.gov](mailto:OCCM@jud.ca.gov).